



PATENT CASE NAME/NO. 977-001(RIC 00-031)

2643  
#12  
smc  
1/24/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: William C. Hardy

Serial No: 09/779,092

Filing Date: 02/08/2001

Title: A METHOD AND APPARATUS  
FOR ESTIMATING QUALITY  
IN A TELEPHONIC VOICE  
CONNECTION

Group Art Unit: 2643

Examiner: Taylor, Barry W.

RESPONSE

**RECEIVED**

**JAN 24 2003**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

**Technology Center 2600**

**RESPONSE TO THE EXAMINER'S OFFICE ACTION**

In response to the Office Action dated 10/18/2002, designated as Paper No. 10 in the above-captioned application, please enter the following Remarks as follows:

Remarks

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, favorable reconsideration of the outstanding office action is respectfully requested. Claims 1-61 remain in this application.

**1. § 103 Rejections**

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-61 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable for obviousness over U.S. Patent No. 6,304,634 to Hollier et al. (hereinafter Hollier) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,256,608 to Malvar, or over U.S. Patent No. 5,867,813 to Di Pietro et al. (hereinafter Di Pietro), or over U.S. Patent No. 6,356,601 to Chen et al. (hereinafter Chen). The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection because the Examiner has failed to make a prima facie case of obviousness because the proposed combination does not teach all of the claimed limitations. Further, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection because there is no motivation to combine the cited references.

Claim 1 is directed to a device for evaluating quality in a telephonic voice connection in a telecommunications network. The device includes a measurement circuit operative to measure at least one characteristic of the telephonic voice connection. A processor is coupled